

## PARTICIPATORY PUBLIC ART

A one day event organised by  
Public Art Forum and Fusion, Oxford

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2003 at East Oxford Community Centre,  
Princes Street, Oxford, 11 am – 4.30 pm**

**Steve Pile**, Reader in Cultural Geography at the Open University will Chair a roundtable discussion that will explore some of the issues we are presented with when we seek to couple participatory arts practice and the practice of public art.

Contributions by artists working on the Insite initiative with Fusion; **Fiona Bailey, Shona Illingworth, Ann Rapstoff, David Little** and **Liam Curtin** will provide a context for this complex area of debate

They will be joined by **Zoe Brooks** from East Oxford Community Action and **Martell Lindsay**, Artist, Lecturer & Researcher at Manchester Metropolitan University. All of whom will share their experiences of working in this field.

On a site visit to St Mary's & St John's Church artists **Fuller / Mackeith** will talk about the 'Restspace' project, part of the Insite initiative.

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*Who should attend: artists, other design professionals, project managers, community groups, those involved in regeneration and arts development. This event is one of PAF's regular networking events, organised in partnership with Fusion Arts. Through these events we aim to encourage debate and information exchange.*

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Fee : £10 (lunch and refreshments included)

Booking : print off the attached booking form and send completed together with a cheque (made payable to Public Art Forum) to Public Art Forum, PO Box 10698, Birmingham B30 1WH. Confirmation and location details will be sent out by email.

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## **Meeting agenda**

- 11.00am Registration, tea and coffee
- 11.30 Welcome – Emma Larkinson, PAF Director  
Tara Stewart, Project Development Director,  
Fusion
- 11.50 Chair’s introduction – Steve Pile, Reader in Cultural  
Geography, Open University
- 12.00 Liam Curtin, Lead Artist – Insite project initiative
- 12.15 Site visit – To ‘Rest Space’ project, St Mary’s /St John’s  
Church, Cowley Road – artists Fuller / Mackeith will talk  
about the project on site.
- 12.45 Lunch – during lunch the ‘Talking & Thinking Space’  
website will be on show and the artists, Fiona Bailey &  
Shona Illingworth will talk about the project.
- 2.00 Afternoon discussion including a brief 10 minute talk by  
Artist, David Little about the ‘Walk Space’ project, Artist,  
Ann Rapstoff about ‘The Outside Space’, Zoe Brooks, East  
Oxford Community Action on her experience of the Insite  
projects from her particular view point and Martell Linsdell,  
Artist, Researcher, & Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan  
University about her experience / view of the event’s  
issues.
- 4.30 Finish – tea and coffee will be served for those wanting to talk  
further.

## **Fusion**

*fusion* is Oxford's community arts agency and was one of the first community arts organisations in the U.K. Established in 1980 as *bloomin arts* the company was registered in 1987, received charitable status in 1998 and now operates as a company limited by guarantee (2089425) and as a registered charity (1070805). The name changed from *bloomin arts* to *fusion* in June 2001 to more accurately reflect the growth and widened horizons of the company.

*fusion* is based at the East Oxford Community Centre, with a darkroom and two additional working spaces – one of which is used for hire for performing arts or exhibitions and the other for visual arts workshops (including *wetwork*). An additional studio space is a dedicated base for *fusion's* major projects – for office and workshop/making.

*fusion* is a revenue-funded client of Oxford City Council but draws much of its income from project funding – principally from Southern and South-East Arts, East Oxford Action (SRB5 Office) and from trusts. Following the review of its policy and programme structure in 2001 *fusion* is now pursuing fewer but larger and more strategic programmes of work with a focus on inclusion and regeneration and a more diverse artform base – including theatre, youth music and participatory public art. (*fusion's* *fastforward* programme was selected to participate in the Arts Council of England social exclusion pilot in 2001).

## **How to get to East Oxford Community Centre**



